WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of managing target files referred to by referring documents, comprising:

identifying referring documents having a hypertext link pointing to a target document stored in a storage;

determining when the referring documents cease to have hyperlinks pointing to the target document; and

enabling removing of the target document from the storage.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein said referring documents and said target document are stored in different storage devices coupled over a network.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein said referring documents and said target document are stored in the same storage device.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the referring document uses a hypertext link to point to the target document.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the storage decrements a counter for the target document when a referring document is deleted.

6. The method of claim 5, further comprising the step of:

determining whether the count for the counter of the target document equals zero.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein if the counter equals zero, then the steps comprising:

sending a message to an author of the target document asking whether the author client wants to delete the target document from the storage.

8. A method of providing security for target files referred to by referring documents, comprising:

identifying a first referring document having a hyperlink pointing to a target document stored in a storage, the first referring document having a security access requirement; and

applying said security access requirement to the target document.

9. The method of claim 8, which further comprises:

identifying a second referring document having a hyperlink pointing to the target document stored in a storage:

determining whether the second referring document has said security access requirement; and

preventing said second referring document from accessing said target document if said second referring document does not have said security access requirement.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein said referring documents and said target document are stored in different storage devices coupled over a network.

11. The method of claim 9, wherein said referring documents and said target document are stored in the same storage device.

12. The method of claim 9, wherein the referring document uses a hypertext link to point to the target document.

13. The method of claim 9, wherein the storage decrements a counter for the target document when a referring document is deleted.

14. The method of claim 13, which further comprises:

determining whether the count for the counter of the target document equals zero.

15. The method of claim 14, wherein if the counter equals zero, then the steps comprising:

sending a message to an author of the target document asking whether the author client wants to delete the target document from the storage.

16. A system for managing target files referred to by referring documents, comprising:

a storage for storing a target document;

a processor coupled to the storage, for identifying referring documents having a hyperlink pointing to the target document;

said processor determining when the referring documents cease to have hyperlinks pointing to the target document; and

said storage enabling removal of the target document.

17. The system of claim 16, wherein said referring documents and said target document are stored in different storage devices coupled over a network.

18. The system of claim 16, wherein said referring documents and said target document are stored in the same storage device.

19. The system of claim 16, wherein the referring document uses a hypertext link to point to the target document.

20. The system of claim 16, wherein the storage decrements a counter for the target document when a referring document is deleted.

21. The system of claim 20, which further comprises:

means for determining whether the count for the counter of the target document equals zero.

22. The system of claim 21, wherein if the counter equals zero, then comprising:

means for sending a message to an author of the target document asking whether the author client wants to delete the target document from the storage.

23. A system of providing security for target files referred to by referring documents, comprising:

a processor for identifying a first referring document having a hyperlink pointing to a target document stored in a storage, the first referring document having a security access requirement; and

a storage coupled to the processor, for applying said security access requirement to the target document.

24. The system of claim 23, which further comprises:

means for identifying a second referring document having a hyperlink pointing to the target document stored in a storage:

means for determining whether the second referring document has said security access requirement; and

means for preventing said second referring document from accessing said target document if said second referring document does not have said security access requirement.

25. The system of claim 23, wherein said referring documents and said target document are stored in different storage devices coupled over a network.

26. The system of claim 23, wherein said referring documents and said target document

are stored in the same storage device.

27. The system of claim 23, wherein the storage decrements a counter for the target document when a referring document is deleted.

28. The system of claim 27, which further comprises:

means for determining whether the count for the counter of the target document equals zero.

29. The system of claim 28, wherein if the counter equals zero, then comprising:

means for sending a message to an author of the target document asking whether the author client wants to delete the target document from the storage.